

prepared to work until we get an agreement. We've just got to keep working through it.

But these are complex issues. To protect Medicare and Medicaid, education and the environment, the things that are at the core of the resolution we adopted, and get the budget balanced in 7 years is not easy to do. We're going to have to work at it.

Q. [*Inaudible*]*—the Republicans rejected last time? You thought you had an agreement on something like this and the House Republicans rejected it?*

Q. *Why did you change your position, Mr. Gingrich?*

The President. Wait, wait, wait. Let's don't ask any more questions like that. We're trying to work this out, and I think—give us a chance to meet today, and give them a chance to do their work. Let's see what happens.

NOTE: The President spoke at 3:40 p.m. in the Cabinet Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of these remarks.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

December 26

The President had telephone conversations with President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and President-elect Rene Preval of Haiti.

The President also had a telephone conversation with Senate majority leader Bob Dole on the budget negotiations.

The White House announced that the President will pay a state visit to Japan, April 17–18, 1996.

December 27

The President met with Office of Management and Budget Director Alice M. Rivlin to discuss the budget negotiations.

The President announced his intention to nominate Alvin L. Alm as Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted December 29

Charles William Burton, of Texas, to be a member of the Board of Directors of the U.S. Enrichment Corporation for a term expiring February 24, 2001 (reappointment).

Gerald N. Tirozzi, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, Department of Education, vice Thomas W. Payzant, resigned.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released December 26

Statement by Press Secretary Mike McCurry on the President's upcoming visit to Japan on April 17–18

Released December 28

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

White House announcement on the President's veto of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996